

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Helmling et al.  
Appl. No.: 10/522,582  
Conf. No.: 6124  
Filed: May 24, 2006  
Title: GHRELIN BINDING NUCLEIC ACIDS  
Art Unit: 1635  
Examiner: Tracy Vivlemore  
Docket No.: 116676-002

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed 24 January 2007. The Examiner set a one-month period for response, making the due date for reply 24 February 2007. Attached hereto and herein incorporated by reference is a Petition for a five-month extension, making the due date for response 24 July 2007.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** are reflected in the amendments which begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 5 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Sequence Listing** are reflected in the amendment which begins on page 11 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 12 of this paper.